



MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

CA Commission on the Status of Women and Girls Meeting

Monday, February 3, 2014

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

State Capitol, Sacramento, CA

Geena Davis, Chair

Open Session, 2:18 P.M.

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Roll Call, Establish Quorum (6/10 required)

Commissioners Present: Davis, Alcala, Blumenfield, Campos, Evans, Jackson, Liu, Lowenthal, Garcia,

Commissioner Present from Teleconference Location:

Commissioners Joining Meeting in Progress:

Absent Commissioners: Escutia, Su

III. Approval of Agenda

Action: Motion to Approve the Agenda

Motioned by Commissioner Blumenfield

Seconded by Commissioner Lowenthal

Motion approved

IV. Introduce Staff

Rebecca Blanton, Executive Director, introduced Marian Johnston (Attorney), and Nicole Kortuem (Office Support) staff.

V. Commissioner Report Out

- a. Commissioners were asked if they wanted to report on anything they or their office was currently working on that would be relevant to the Commission.
 - i. Asm. Bonnie Lowenthal noted that it is Women's History Month in March. This year, the Women's Legislative Caucus will be asking each member of the Assembly and Senate to recognize an outstanding woman from their district.
 - ii. Sen. Hannah-Beth Jackson reported on SJR62. This is a joint resolution that would encourage publicly traded companies to add women to their Boards.

Additionally, she will be working on family leave and child care legislation this session.

- iii. Sen. Carol Liu mentioned that the California State Library put out a Women's History Month calendar that is available on-line at www.library.ca.gov

Additionally, Sen. Liu requested a report-out on the Commission's budget and fund raising efforts during this meeting.

VI. Mission Statement

- a. Commissioners discussed the mission statement in light of the concerns raised by at CA NOW call to action to close the Commission. There was an extensive discussion about the Commission's ability to advocate for legislation. The Commissioner felt that the decision last June to remove the Commission from an advocacy role except when the Commission is specifically mentioned in legislation may be a bit confining. Commissioners requested that a discussion about advocacy be added to the next agenda meeting.
- b. Commissions had a discussion about the two proposed mission statements and suggested that the Commission revert to its original mission statement. Commissioners performed a bit of word-smithing and the newly revised statement will be up for a vote at the next meeting.

VII. Public Comment

- a. Karen Humphey, public, commented on the discussion. She suggested that fund raising and advocacy be added back into the original plan.

Sen. Jackson commented that without advocacy the Commission is not relevant.

The Senator then reviewed the handout with suggested areas of concentration.

Asm. Lowenthal suggested the Commission align its projects with the 5 areas of concentration in its establishing legislation.

Sen. Liu suggested that the Commission add a need for a girls lens.

Asm. Campos suggested that we concentrate on women aged 18-22, especially their portrayal in the media.

Sen. Evans suggested the Commission focus on the impact of the state budget on women and girls and perform advisory roles in key areas.

Comm. Alcala requested a call for support for applications to the CA Department of Education STEM conference. Additionally, she requested work on the transitional kindergarten issue.

Sen. Liu requested that someone send an email to all Commissioners with the application to the STEM conference.

Sen. Evans asked that the Commission identify critical areas for the Commission to provide budget advice to the Legislature and Governor.

Comm. Blumenfield asked the Commission to specifically include women of color and low income women.

Asm. Garcia requested that the Commission look at child care and women going into small business.

Sen. Jackson mentioned that poverty was the number one issue for women in the U.S.

Sen. Liu suggested that the Commission work with other policy institutes.

II. New Business

a. Projects

Commissioners accepted Chair Davis' suggestion that the projects discussion be relegated to a subcommittee and that projects be refined and brought back to the Commissioners for a vote.

Planning and was replaced by Commissioner Jackson.

III. Public Comment

- a. Several members of the public made brief comments regarding support of various projects.

IV. Adjournment

The Commission meeting was adjourned at 5:27 P.M.